Portsmouth. He got off from Havre in a fishing-boat with Lieutenant Wright and a little Frenchman of the army of Condé, who managed his escape. The above is the whole account he gave me in a short interview *I* had with him soon after his arrival. But I have since learnt that an order being given by the Directory to remove them to another prison, a great mob had assembled to see them. When they came into the middle of it, friends properly placed caught hold of them, pulled them into the thickest of the crowd, and carried them off to a private house, where they lay concealed till night; they were then conveyed by cross roads and bye-ways to Rouen and Havre, from the house of one Royalist to another.

As *I* have been suspecting for some time, by the accounts I have received from Paris, that his escape was preparing, I was not much surprised at it; but I cannot yet take upon me to affirm whether the Directory connived at it, or who were the persons bribed ; for money must have been distributed. Sir S. said they were obliged

to cut the Gordian knot. He received me with great cordiality and many expressions of gratitude.

God knows what effect this will have abroad in the treatment of other prisoners. M. says there will now be no difficulty in ratifying my conven-